

speaker, so Senator Newell, did you wish to close on your motion?

SENATOR NEWELL: . . . order if I could, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make one comment in regards to Senator Carsten's remarks. Senator Carsten, I have not been unwilling to delay some issues and hold some issues as you well know. I don't know for sure what you are referring to but what I am referring to is the food tax, where you had asked that that we wait and see what sort of developments might happen in terms of a package from the committee. I was in conjunction and concurrence with that, the only thing is that I felt it would be nicer to hold it on Select File as opposed to General File, which didn't seem to me to be an unreasonable request. But we have held that bill for in excess of three weeks as we have indicated we would. So really what we have done, and it really does have a major impact, fiscal impact, on some things, so really what we have done is put some things behind us. Now let me just remind other members of the Legislature that on those bills that have A bills we hold those up until after the Appropriations proposals are finished. That is a very fine and long honored tradition in this Legislature. Senator Marsh argues that, well, you know, it is a little different sometimes, it is different because I feel it is different. But the truth of the matter is that that is a tradition that has been proposed by the Appropriations Committee and has held up over a period of time. Now frankly I don't think that is unreasonable when we are looking at a financial situation of some magnitude and many, many, many possible options for solution. This is one of those, this is a significant proposal that the Governor originally asked the Legislature to pass because we needed five million dollars. But the truth of the matter here is that five million dollars alone will not solve our problems, and we all know that, it is important to know whether we are going to do some of the other things, and we all know that, and it is important for us to get some sort of cohesive feeling about just where and how we are going to deal with these things. If the assumption here is is that the Governor is going to get everything he wants, and therefore this is one of those things he wants and we ought to give it to him, then I think that would be a fine principle to stand all the way through the legislative session. But I'm not so naive and neither are any of you to believe that the Governor is going to get everything he wants. I think that is why this Legislature ought to do as we have done with the Appropriation bills, with A bills with spending issues, etc., we ought to bring these together